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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CENTRAL FAX CENTER

Application of:

Berger, Roger

Confirmation No.:

7055

JUL 2 8 2004

Application No.:

09/788,639

Art Unit:

3743

Filed:

February 21, 2001

Examiner:

Odland, Kathryn P.

OCCIPITAL PLATE AND

Attorney Docket No:

8932-320-999

For:

SYSTEM FOR SPINAL

STABILIZATION

RESPONSE AFTER FINAL OFFICE ACTION PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 AND § 1.116

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office action dated March 10, 2004, please enter the following amendments and remarks into the above-captioned application. Applicants submit that no new matter has been added and that the following remarks are proper.

After entry of this amendment, the pending claims are: claims 1-6, 8-21, 24-51,53-56, 58 and 60-75. No fee is believed to be due with the filing of this response. Should any fee(s) be required, however, please charge such fee(s) to Jones Day Deposit Account No. 503013. A copy of this sheet is enclosed for such purpose.